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**From:** Hickey, Maureen [Hickey.Maureen@epa.gov]  
**on behalf of** Lopez, Peter [lopez.peter@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 7/29/2020 7:38:48 PM  
**To:** Basil.Seggos@dec.ny.gov  
**CC:** James.tierney@dec.ny.gov; Richard.ball@agriculture.ny.gov; lauren.townley@dec.ny.gov; Aunkst, Dana [aunkst.dana@epa.gov]; Mugdan, Walter [Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov]; Kopec, Slawomir [kopec.slawomir@epa.gov]; Laureano, Javier [laureano.javier@epa.gov]; Gratz, Jeff [Gratz.Jeff@epa.gov]; Servidio, Cosmo [servidio.cosmo@epa.gov]; Lopez, Peter [lopez.peter@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** EPA evaluation of New York's 2018-2019 milestone progress and 2020-2021 milestone commitments  
**Attachments:** EDIT.NY\_2018\_2019\_2020\_2021\_final\_milestone\_evaluation.docx

Commissioner Basil Seggos  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation

Dear Commissioner Seggos:

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to develop and implement two-year milestones to restore water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. As you know, these milestones represent the first set of milestones in Phase III of Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load implementation. By 2025, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership committed to have in place all programs and practices that are necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards in the tidal Bay.

Attached is EPA's evaluation of New York's 2018-2019 milestone progress and 2020-2021 milestone commitments. EPA's feedback is focused on key strengths and key areas to address during this two-year milestone period and beyond.

We recognize the work that New York is doing to protect and restore local resources, as well as the Chesapeake Bay, and we are committed to work with you to keep restoration efforts on track so that New York can meet its Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) planning targets. EPA will continue to provide technical, financial, and other resource support to assist New York in implementing its Phase III WIP and two-year milestones.

In particular, given the potential financial and technical challenges that wastewater treatment operators might face, we are interested in working closely with you to provide compliance assistance for these facilities.

We will also continue to work with you to take further advantage of pollution reduction opportunities especially in the agricultural and forestry sectors. In this regard, we are keenly interested in exploring the effective transfer of successful pollution control experiences and practices from other watershed areas of the State that could benefit the agricultural/forest industries as well the environment such as the New York City Water Supply Watershed.

As always, we appreciate our close working relationship with you and your team and look forward to continued cooperative engagement in this area.

Best wishes,

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